

House File 251 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 251
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 58)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to requirements for and restrictions on special
2 minor's driver's licenses, and making penalties applicable.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.194, subsection 2, paragraph a,
2 subparagraph (3), Code 2023, is amended by striking the
3 subparagraph and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

4 (3) If the licensee is fifteen years old or older and
5 employed, the licensee may operate a motor vehicle during the
6 hours of 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. over the most direct and
7 accessible route between the licensee's residence or school of
8 enrollment and the licensee's place of employment, provided the
9 driving distance between the licensee's place of employment
10 and the nearest point on the route on which the licensee is
11 authorized to travel under subparagraph (1), subparagraph
12 division (a), or subparagraph (2), subparagraph division (a),
13 is no more than fifty miles.

14 EXPLANATION

15 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
16 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

17 Under current law, a person holding a special minor's
18 driver's license is allowed to operate a motor vehicle
19 during the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. between the
20 licensee's residence, schools of enrollment, bus stops, and
21 sites, facilities, or schools designated by the licensee's
22 district or school of enrollment for the accommodation of the
23 school's extracurricular activities, with certain limitations.
24 Additionally, if the licensee resides on a farm or is employed
25 for compensation on a farm in this state, the licensee is
26 authorized to operate a motor vehicle for the purpose of
27 assisting the licensee's parents, guardians, or employers with
28 farm work or in connection with any farm job, employment, or
29 other farm-related work, including traveling to or from the
30 location of the farm work, provided the licensee operates the
31 vehicle over the most direct and accessible route between the
32 point of origin and the destination and the driving distance
33 between the point of origin and the destination is no more than
34 50 miles. A licensee may also operate a motor vehicle to a
35 service station along the associated routes.

1 This bill strikes the farm work authorization and instead
2 authorizes a licensee who is 15 years old or older and
3 employed to operate a motor vehicle during the hours of 5:00
4 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. over the most direct and accessible route
5 between the licensee's residence or school of enrollment and
6 the licensee's place of employment, provided the driving
7 distance between the licensee's place of employment and the
8 nearest point on the route on which the licensee is otherwise
9 authorized to travel is no more than 50 miles.

10 Under current law, a special minor's driver's license
11 application must be accompanied by a statement from the
12 applicant's school of enrollment certifying that a need
13 exists for the license. The fact that an applicant resides
14 at a distance less than one mile from the applicant's school
15 of enrollment is prima facie evidence of the nonexistence
16 of necessity for the issuance of the license. However, if
17 an applicant resides or is employed for compensation on a
18 farm, the distance between the applicant's residence and
19 school cannot be considered. The bill does not amend these
20 provisions.

21 A violation of Code section 321.194 is punishable by a
22 scheduled fine of \$70.